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JULY 4th, 1890.

# 250TH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

First White Settlement within the Territory of

## WINCHESTER.



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"A people which takes no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors,  
will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote descendants."

MACAULAY: *History of England*.

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CHARLESTOWN	.	.	.	.	.	.	1633.
WATERFIELD	.	.	.	.	.	.	1633.
CHARLESTOWN VILLAGE	.	.	.	.	.	.	1640.
WOBURN	.	.	.	.	.	.	1642.
WINCHESTER	.	.	.	.	.	.	1650.



# PREFACE.

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It is difficult to reduce, within the limits of the following article, the interesting and abundant data collected by the active and honorary members of the Winchester Historical Society, concerning the history of Winchester. Many historical events, an account of which would be appropriate to a complete history, are of necessity omitted or but slightly touched upon. It is hoped that the intention of the Historical Society may soon be carried out, and a history of Winchester written in a more interesting and comprehensive manner than is possible in this sketch.


Thanks are due to Mr. W. R. Cutter of Woburn for assistance in the preparation of this article. Much valuable matter furnished by him, but omitted for want of space, may appear in the more permanent publication alluded to.

ARTHUR E. WHITNEY,  
GEORGE S. LITTLEFIELD.



# Historical Sketch of Winchester.

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O-DAY, Winchester celebrates the 250th anniversary of the first white settlement within her borders. Two centuries and a half ago the territory now embraced in Winchester was a wild, unsettled part of Charlestown, called Waterfield. It was a part of the original territory granted to Charlestown by the General Court in 1633 and defined in 1636 as extending "eight miles into the Country from their meeting house." May 13, 1640, the General Court granted Charlestown "two miles at their head line, provided they build within two years;" Oct. 7, 1640, they also voted: "Charles Towne petition is granted them, the proportion of four mile square, with their former graunt to make a village." (Massachusetts Colony Records.)

These last additions to Charlestown's original grant extended much beyond the present northerly line of the eight mile limit or "Waterfield" and embraced the territory of the present City of Woburn and the towns of Burlington ("Shaw Shin") and Wilmington ("The Land of Nod"). The wild lands of Waterfield (1633) included only the territory along the banks of our Aberjona River from Mystic Pond to the land of John Harvard (Winchester Highlands), and the territory bordering on Horn Pond and Horn Pond River; as its name implies, it was a *water-field*. It was surveyed and allotted to the inhabitants of Charlestown previous to 1638. (See Charlestown Book of Possessions.) By this record, supplemented by a map of Waterfield, drawn by the late George Cooke (Winchester Record, Vol. II., No. 2), Winchester can define and locate her land owners of 1638. They included such men as Edward Converse, Edward Johnson, Increase Nowell, Zachariah Symmes, John Harvard, Thomas Graves, Ezekiel, Samuel, and Thomas Richardson, William Frothingham, George Bunker, and many others whose connection with our early history we are proud to acknowledge.

It is evident from both the Charlestown and Massachusetts Colony Records that it was the intention of Charlestown to allot the newly acquired territory to her own citizens and to establish a village near the site of Waterfield, hence our second name "Charlestown Village."

Nov. 4, 1640, a committee of thirteen was chosen by the town to "set the bounds between Charlestown and the village and to appoint a place for the village." It seems that the committee did not agree in their decision, as the Woburn Records subsequently state that "it was in part assented to and part denied." It appears also, that after securing the grant of new land a project developed among the leaders of the Charlestown church to establish a new church and a new town. Hence on Nov. 4, the *church* (not the inhabitants) of Charlestown, of which Rev. Zachariah Symmes, the ancestor of the Symmes family in Winchester, was pastor, chose a committee of seven, Edward Converse, Edward Johnson, Ezekiel Richardson, John Mousall, Thomas Graves, Samuel Richardson, and Thomas Richardson as commissioners for the erection of a new church and town, where a "village" had been originally designed within the limits of Charlestown. (Charlestown Records.) In the colonial days the authority of the Puritan church was equal, if not superior, to the civil authority: thus it was through the instrumentality of the *church*, not the town, of Charlestown that our territory, first Waterfield, then Charlestown Village, was finally annexed to Woburn in 1642. Though the church appointed the commissioners above referred to, yet when a large number came forward to join the new town, the church became afraid that Charlestown would become "depopulated." She therefore discountenanced the enterprise and watched all who were in favor of it with a "jealous eye." Subsequently the commissioners seem to have overcome the opposition of the church or to have out-voted the opponents of the new departure, as at a church meeting held Dec. 3, 1640, it was voted "full power is given to Edward Converse and Company to go on with the work."

It does not appear that the town government opposed the church commissioners, though the General Court did not incorporate Woburn into a separate town till Oct. 6, 1642. The act is a model of brevity: "Charlestowne Village is called Wooburne." (Massachusetts Colony Records, Vol. II.) Notwithstanding the passing of this act, the bounds between the two towns were not definitely fixed till Dec. 16, 1650, when Charlestown tardily acceded to the repeated solicitations of Woburn, and a joint committee settled the bounds. This dilatory action of Charlestown seemed to show they were not anxious to divide their town, and explains descriptions of some of the Charlestown farms: "Situate in Woburne in Charlestowne bounds." (Page 27, Charlestowne Book of Possessions; John Green, Recorder, 1645.)

The southerly line of Woburn as laid out by the joint committee followed the present line of our Church St., from Cambridge St. to the High School house, thence in a straight line to near the Black Horse Tavern into the "Common," or woods. The record reads as follows: "This first wee agree upon: That the Line of devisiion bettwene the two Townes shall runne from Cambridge Line by ye Northwest end of Mr. Nowell's Lott and so all along bettwene Mr. Sims's Ffarme and Edward

Convers's Farme untill it come to the East side of them adjoyneing to Charlestowne Common."

From this description it can be seen that much of the present territory of Winchester, excluding all south of Rangely and Black Horse Hill, was a part of Woburn from this date until 1850, and the union was most happy and prosperous.

Having traced the transfer of our territory from ancient Charlestown to Woburn, let us consider the state of the country about the time of the transfer. Think, for a moment, that in 1635-40 this territory was considered by the people of the sea-coast settlements as a "remote land," with which they were little acquainted, and peopled in their imagination with wild beasts and possibly still wilder men. In reality it was a scraggy wilderness, difficult of penetration. Edward Johnson, one of the early explorers, says in his contemporary description of it, that it was a "watery swamp" difficult to travel through, the country being covered with an "unknown woods." Sometimes the explorers in their work passed through thickets where their hands were forced to make way for the passage of their bodies, at times their feet clambering over the crossed trees that had fallen, on which, if they missed their foothold, down their feet sank into an uncertain bottom of water, where they would wade up to their knees, tumbling, sometimes higher and sometimes lower, till wearied with this toil they would seek a place of rest, but instead thereof, as the end of this trial came near, they would meet with a scorching plain, where their difficulties were increased, the ragged bushes there scratching the legs of the adventurers foully, even wearing the stockings on the limbs of the men through to the bare skin in the space of a short time, and if not otherwise well defended with boots or buskins, their flesh would be torn; some not amply well provided with such guards have had the blood trickle down at every step. On the plain, besides, the sun cast at that time such a reflecting heat from such plants as the sweet fern, whose scent was very strong, that some of the party from that cause were near fainting, being unable to bear the odor which so severely oppressed them, though, in other respects, they had "very able bodies to endure much travel." Further, they were ignorant of their path, and were at times out of sight of the sun, and were bewildered too by their compass miscarrying in crowding through the bushes. The Indians, fortunately, were not so formidable in this section as their imagination pictured. At this early period the white settlers were sometimes obliged to burrow themselves in the earth under some hillside for their first shelter. To improve this habitation they would cast the earth aloft upon timber, and the short showers were warded off from the summit of their lodgings, but the long rains penetrated through. Johnson says the people were cheerful in these humble habitations. "Every one who could lift a hoe to strike it into the earth aided in raising the first crop; but they had to stand stoutly to their labors and tear

up the roots and bushes which abounded, the first year bearing them in useful vegetables a very thin crop," — so thin, indeed, "that they were forced to eat their bread very thin for a long season." As a help they lived upon fish which abounded in the streams: and they were helped much by raising Indian corn, which they prepared after the manner of the Indians. As for meat they "looked not for any in those times:" unless they could barter with the Indians for venison or raccoons, whose flesh was considered not much inferior to lamb. One thing they had learned, in the words of Johnson, that the "toil of a new plantation" was "like the labors of Hercules, never at an end."

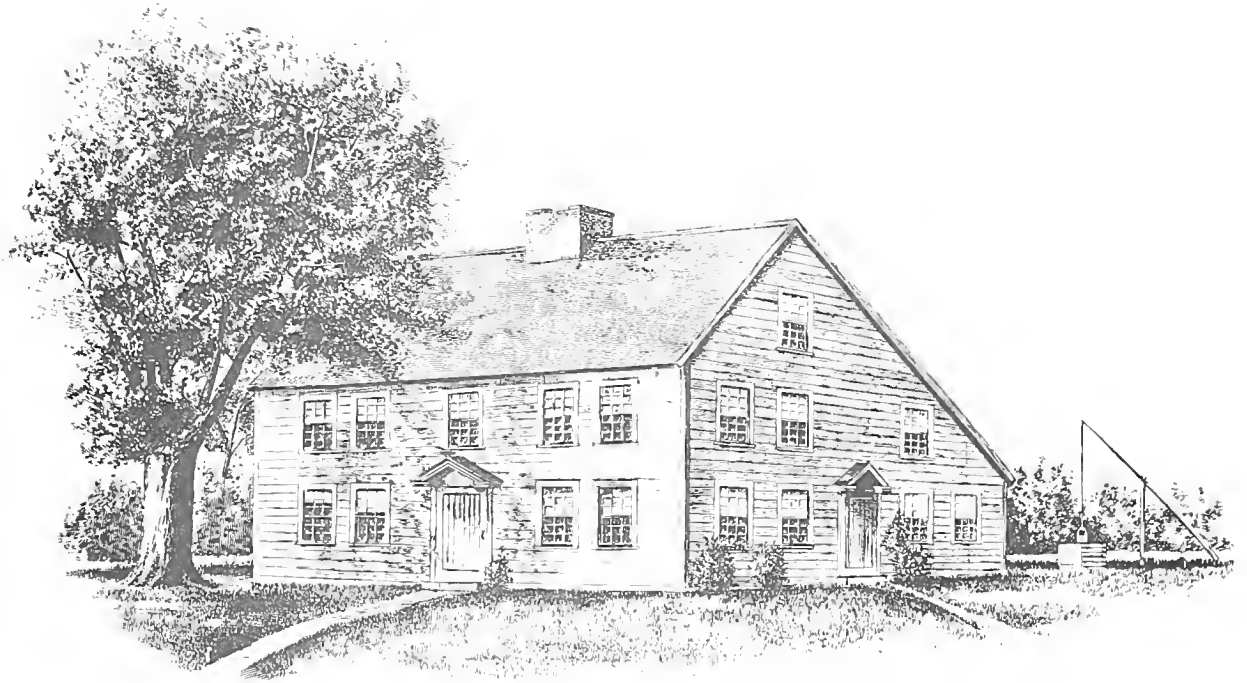
The first record we have relating especially to this unexplored country was in 1635, when "Edward Converse, William Brackenbury, and Mr. Abraham Palmer were desired to go up into the country upon discovery three or four days, for which they were to be satisfied at the charge of the town." (Charlestown Records.) Edward Converse, the staunch Puritan, was the leader in this and subsequent explorations. He was one of Winthrop's company and an inhabitant of Charlestown as early as 1630, and one of the selectmen from 1635 to 1640. He established the first ferry between Charlestown and Boston on the site of the present Charles River Bridge, paying £40 per year rental to the Colony for the franchise. He might be called the father of Winchester, as, in 1640, he built and occupied the first house, on the site of the present Thompson estate next to the Post Office. He also established the first "corne mill" on the site of the present Whitney mills previous to 1649, probably in 1641. This was the first business establishment in Winchester. At Woburn he was a selectman for 19 years, from 1644, when the first town officers were chosen. He was a deacon in the church from 1642 till his death in 1663, and represented the town at the General Court. For many years he was one of three commissioners "for ending small causes." (Trial justice.) All the facts show that Converse was from his arrival on the shores of Massachusetts an influential man in all enterprises which favored the extension and good government of the first settlements.

An interesting episode in the life of Edward Converse, displaying his independent and patriotic character, was his arrest for refusal to promulgate the King's letter in 1662. This missive asserted the King's supreme authority over the colonies, curtailing the liberties which the early settlers had hitherto enjoyed unmolested. Edward Converse was one of the most outspoken of the patriots and denounced the letter as an embodiment of Popery. He was summoned before the General Court in 1663 but was acquitted, as that body was composed of delegates fully sympathizing with the same views but not so outspoken.

We have seen that the peninsula which was called by the Indians, Mislawum — an eminently descriptive cognomen in their dialect — and which is known to us to-day as "Charlestown," was the site of the original settlement of that municipality.



To this nucleus, tracts of territory in the interior were added, till the area of many present towns was covered, the name and jurisdiction of Charlestown overshadowing all. But the process of disintegration soon began. The old town of Woburn was the first to be set off in 1642. Charlestown, at length shorn of this and other external territory, has shrunk again to less than her original limits, and in the course of time has even lost her name, sinking her ancient dignity and identity in that of her still younger sister city and neighbor — Boston.



EDWARD CONVERSE HOUSE, ERECTED 1640.

Posterity owes a great debt to the perseverance of the first seeders from Charlestown, especially to Edward Converse, the first settler in Waterfield. The silence and solitude of this forest home must have afforded a great contrast to him from the surroundings he had enjoyed in England, and those he had just left behind in the compact and comparatively active village of Charlestown. Gradually, however, the wilderness became a fertile land. The wild beasts were scattered, and plenty and comfort abounded.

Let us now consider the natural features of Waterfield, and the localities well known to the early settlers. These were Mistick Pond, Spot Pond, Horn Pond,

Horn Pond River, Horn Pond Mountain, the Aberjona River, Rag Rock, and Cheese Rock, all of which are now known by the same names, and appear on very early maps, even before the settlement of Woburn. And so appear Winter Pond, and Wedge Pond, but not so distinctly defined. Mistick Pond in early times was considered to be sixty fathoms (360 feet) deep, and its neighbor, Fresh Pond, in Cambridge, to be forty fathoms deep. How much this depth may be overstated, those who manage the municipal water-works at those places best know. The fathers evidently believed them to be ponds of very deep water, and at that time they were stocked with myriads of fish, and people came long distances from Charlestown, Boston, and Cambridge, to catch them for food, and for manure for their lands.

The highway from Woburn to Mistick Bridge (Medford) passed through the centre of the present town of Winchester, and there is extant a report of the laying out of this way in 1660. It had, however, existed as a highway as early even as 1646, and evidently as early as the building of the first house upon it in 1640. It was described in part as the highway from "Woburn meeting-house" to "Edward Converse's mill," and the "parting of the ways of the Converses and Richardsons, to their now dwelling-houses" is mentioned. Through Winchester it ran "along upon a brow" until it came to a bridge "made at a place called Half-Way Swamp." The bounds were "marked trees" on one or both sides, or in the middle of the way. The "mill-pond" and "corne mill" of Edward Converse are mentioned in connection with this highway, also an "enclosure" belonging to him, and his "old orchard" and the "mill-dam." The whole way was practically a forest path.

Let us now refer to the Woburn Town Records for some of the facts referring to the work of the early settlers. These records are dated 1640, although it has been seen that Woburn was not incorporated until 1642, the first town officers chosen in 1644, and the bounds established in 1650. It is now believed by the best authorities that these early records are made up of original, private memoranda of events, written by Edward Johnson, the first town clerk of Woburn (1644) and transferred to the town books at a later date. It will be noticed that they are written in the past tense, not the present. They are certainly the most complete and interesting record of early local history, possessed by any city or town. Winchester should gladly contribute her proportionate share, to preserve and publish these records.

On February 10, 1640 (O. S.), "The first bridge was laid over the Aberjona River over against Edward Convers' house, and called Could Bridge." The site of this bridge was at the present centre of Winchester, on the spot where the bridge now stands, near Whitney's Mill Dam. It was called Cold Bridge, probably because it was made in mid-winter, during severe weather. This spot was also called below the bridge "The King's Ford." A few days later forty persons came

from Charlestown to the place where the village was to be located. These persons spent their time in marking trees and laying bridges, say the records, but the difficulties before them appeared so great and "the way being so plain backward, that divers never went forward again!"

It is further recorded "On the 25 of 6 mo. 1641. Things going heavily on and many Blocks in the way especially sun of their own company disheartening, this day was sett apart for humble seeking the Lord by fasting and prayer whom they found gracious in keeping up the spirits of sun to the work." By the next entry (the next day) it seems that those whose "spirits" were kept "up to the work" engaged in an arduous undertaking: "26 of 6 mo. 1641: A Bridg was made across Horn Pond River: though the place was soe boggy it swallowed up much wood before it could be made pasable, yet it was finished and called Longe Bridg." The location of this bridge was, beyond doubt, on the ancient highway from Woburn to the Converse Mill, in the rear of the present house of Mr. Sullivan Cutter, in Winchester. This is proved beyond controversy by the results of recent research, by Mr. Arthur E. Whitney, Mr. W. R. Cutter, and others. (See Winchester Record, Vol. II., No. 3.)

Later than the date last mentioned (1652), Edward Johnson, the author of "The Wonder Working Providence," writes that "the situation of the town of Woburn was in the highest part of the yet peopled land" and "full of pleasant springs and a great variety of very good water." The abundance of water, he remarks, "the summer's heat causeth to be more cooler, and the winter's cold maketh more warmer." The meadows were not large, "but lie in divers places to particular dwellings: "the same "doth their springs." There was no great quantity of "plain land" in any one place, and the land was very fruitful in many places, and the rocks and swamps yielded "very good food for cattle." The people, says Johnson, were "very laborious—if not exceeding,—some of them."

Not much is known about the building of the first house. It was built during the year 1640, and on January 4, 1640 (O. S.), a meeting of the settlers was held in it. Its location was near the site of the house of the late Deacon Benjamin F. Thompson on Main Street, Winchester. It was on the easterly side of the road, and between the road and the river. His mill was on the opposite side of the road, now Whitney's mill. In 1702 this house was overshadowed by a large and shady elm, standing on the same side of the road with the house, and immediately in front of it, as is common with ancestral shade-trees. The tree was cut down about 1841. Sewall speaks of this tree in his diary (1702). After the Converse occupation of this house for several generations, Abel Richardson, in 1774, became the owner of it, probably the same house built, owned, and occupied by the original Edward Converse. Abel Richardson, a soldier of the French and Revolutionary

wars, died here at great age, in 1831, and in a few years his estate was sold. There is a description extant of this house as it appeared in 1798, and a picture of the same accompanies this sketch. It was thirty-five feet by thirty; area 1,050 square feet. There were nineteen windows and one hundred and fifty-five square feet of glass. The house was two stories in front and one in the rear. With the land only on which it stood, it was valued at six hundred and fifty dollars. The other buildings connected with the estate were an old wood-house, a chaise-house, a barn, and a grist-mill. By 1841 the old house had disappeared, and it must, therefore, have stood about two hundred years.

After the Boston and Lowell railroad was opened through South Woburn, now Winchester, in 1835, a village soon grew up. The inhabitants were mainly farmers, and there were a few mills on the larger streams. In 1850 the village was incorporated as the town of Winchester; and from that time the growth has been constant, owing to favorable railroad facilities and superior natural attractions; and to-day it is widely known for its fine residences, its cultured and wealthy citizens, and the elevating influence of its institutions.

A few other matters which have a particular relation to Winchester territory are here alluded to, as of especial interest on this occasion.

There is in the first volume of the Woburn town records a description of estates near the centre of Winchester, of date, 1692 to 1699. These lands belonged to the Converses and there is a description of other lands located in this part of Woburn of date also as early as the year 1673. We are unable to particularize here; but the familiar names of Horn Pond Hill, Horn Pond, Winter Pond, Wedge Pond, the Aberjona River, Blind Bridge, and Indian Hill are there mentioned. Waterfield, Rockfield, Cold Bridge, Long Bridge, and Elbow Hill have not retained their original names. Would it not be well to revive some of these in the future naming of public places? Blind Bridge, first named Long Bridge, had a greater vitality as a name than some of the above mentioned, and is familiar to the oldest citizens. Ridge Hill (near the site of the Unitarian Church) was the evident successor of Elbow Hill, and is remembered by persons now living, though the height itself has been levelled. Indian Hill, now Andrews' Hill, is mentioned in a deed of 1650, and this name appears in Edward Converse's inventory of 1663. Our "common" is mentioned in Edward Converse's will, 1659, and he expresses therein a wish for its continuance as such. Ridge Hill is mentioned in the inventory of a descendant of Edward Converse in 1767, and Wedge Pond Hill is another name common at this time.

The celebrated *reservation for the Indians* was situated on the western shore of Mystic Pond, where the remnants of the tribes could plant and hunt without molestation: the *weir* above the ponds (nearly opposite the Everett estate) being reserved for the Indians to fish at while their queen lived. She died about 1662,

drowning herself, it is said, in the waters of a brook, still bearing the name, "Indian Brook," which flows into Mystic Pond a few rods from the present Winchester and Arlington line, near the Dwight estate.

In Winchester limits also were the farms of John Harvard, the minister from whom Harvard College was named, and of Thomas Graves, master of the first ship built in Boston, and afterwards rear-admiral under Cromwell. Here were the lots of the numerous and long-lived family of the Richardsons, of the Converses, Carters, Gardners, Johnsons, Symmes, Nowells, and others. *The River* is mentioned in the early Charlestown grants of 1638: it is called *The Aberjona* in 1641.

In 1670, the tragic death of Samuel Converse, the son of Edward, occurred at the old Converse mill, from an injury caused by the water-wheel. (See Winchester Record, Vol. II., No. 1.) This Samuel Converse left one son, who was the ancestor of the Hon. Edward S. Converse, of Malden, conspicuous for his noble and charitable deeds.

Winchester also was the scene, on April 10, 1676, during King Philip's war, of a triple murder perpetrated by Indians. A band of Indians entered the house of Samuel Richardson (Washington Street, near Prince Avenue, ), while he and his son were at work in the fields, killed and scalped his wife Hannah, and his son Thomas. The nurse seized the babe Hannah, and fled to the garrison house (near the present Joseph Stone estate). To save her own life she dropped the babe, whom the Indians killed. The savages were pursued by Mr. Richardson and a party of neighbors, and one was shot near a rock on the west side of the present Highland Reservoir: the rest were pursued to Lynnfield, but escaped the punishment due them.

Among the military heroes of the colonial period, living in the limits of Winchester, were the following:

1. John Carter, Captain. Died 1692, aged 76. His house was on the site of the present Andrews estate. He was ensign of the train-band in Woburn, 1651 to 1661: lieutenant, 1664 to 1672; and captain of the Woburn Military Company, from 1672 to 1692. His period of office as commander of the Town Military Company covered the period of King Philip's War, 1675-76. In the General Court Records is this entry: "Upon a motion in behalf of Woburn Company, it is ordered, that Lieut. John Carter be captain, William Johnson, lieutenant: and James Converse, ensign: to the foot company there" — 1672. The officers thus named were all Winchester residents.

2. William Johnson, Major. Died 1704, aged 74. Ensign of the Woburn Military Company, 1664 to 1672: lieutenant, 1672 to 1688; captain, 1690 to 1691: major, 1692 to 1704. He was one of the court of assistants of the colony, and no citizen of the town in his time attained to higher civic office. On the night of

August 23, 1695, he was in active service with three hundred men under arms, at Billerica, in an endeavor to discover a body of the Indians in force; the savage enemy having killed and captured some fifteen persons at Billerica several days before. He lived at the West Side near the Luke Reed estate.

3. James Converse, Lieutenant. Died 1715, aged 95,—the last survivor of the signers of the Woburn town orders of 1640. He was a sergeant, 1658 to 1672; ensign, 1672 to 1688; and lieutenant, his highest military office, 1688 to 1715. He lived and died in a house built by Edward Converse, his father, on the site of the present Dodge House on Church Street.

4. James Converse,—son of the preceding,—Major. Died 1706, aged 61. Sergeant, 1674 to 1687; ensign, 1689; captain, 1689 to 1692; major, 1693 to 1706; he was a captain in the public service for three years in the war against the Eastern Indians in New Hampshire and Maine. With a very small force he defended Storer's Garrison at Wells, with slight loss, against a much superior force of French and Indians, withstanding a siege of several days. This memorable action occurred in 1692. Cotton Mather immortalized it in his great history of New England, and Converse, for his gallant conduct and bravery, was made a major in 1693. He was associated at one time in his Eastern career with the celebrated Colonel Benjamin Church, and succeeded Church as commander of the Massachusetts forces in Maine, operating against the Indians and French. His house was the one occupied by his father, before referred to. He married the daughter of Capt. John Carter.

5. Samuel Converse, Sergeant, 1669. Accidentally killed at his father's mill 1669-70.

A few interesting military events of the period are as follows: In 1691, the selectmen of Woburn appointed "Lieut. James Converse and Sergt. Matthew Johnson to seek out to procure a supply of ammunition, according to law, for the town." This was in response to an order from the higher powers, and a desire to avoid the imputation of negligence,—for in 1680, the town, failing to observe strictly the law regarding ammunition, had been fined, and this fine was remitted on the petition of Lieut. William Johnson and James Converse, and the promise to be "more observant" in the future.

On Sept. 5, 1724, an engagement with the Indians occurred at Dunstable, in which three Woburn men were killed. One of these certainly was a Winchester resident:—Benjamin Carter, who, according to the inscription on his old gravestone at Dunstable, was "aged 23 years." The English were beaten in this attack, and it is related that the men of Carter's family, when they heard of the manner of his death, cast contemptuous phrases upon it, saying, "they would not be such boys as to be killed by the Indians!" It is also related that the last seen of Benjamin Carter, by his family, when he set out on this fatal expedition, was when

he rode down Indian, now Andrews' Hill, being mounted on horseback, through the crooked path near the junction of Cambridge and Church Streets. His father was Lieut. John Carter, son of Capt. John Carter.

Some of the military men of this locality, before the American Revolution, were Josiah Converse, captain, 1706 to 1717; Robert Converse, captain, 1726 to 1736; Samuel Carter, captain of cavalry, commissioned 1744 (died 1787, aged 92 years); Samuel Belknap, Senior, captain and lieutenant, 1748 to 1752; Jabez Carter, captain and lieutenant, 1748 to 1771; Ebenezer Converse, captain and lieutenant, 1753 to 1764; John Carter, lieutenant, 1700 to 1727; William Belknap, lieutenant, 1762 to 1767; Josiah Converse, ensign, 1714 to 1726 (died 1748); Daniel Reed, ensign, 1747 to 1755.

Samuel Belknap, a captain and patriot of the Revolution, lived on the present James Russell estate. Bill Russell, a Revolutionary pensioner, was a lieutenant-colonel of cavalry in the militia of 1807. Samuel B. White was a lieutenant-colonel of militia in 1839. Francis Johnson was a major of militia in 1807. We have not the space to enumerate privates or officers of a lower rank.

Much more could be written concerning the early history of Winchester, did space admit, but some idea of the importance and ancient character of the hostelry known as the Black Horse Tavern, should be mentioned. This house at one time gave a name to the village,—it being called Black Horse Village. As long ago as the year 1761, Giles Alexander sold it to Noah Wyman, it having been licensed before that time for an inn or tavern, and Wyman continued to keep it. Noah Richardson owned and kept it in 1774. During the Revolution it was an important rendezvous for the patriots. It was also at that time on an important stage route from Boston to Portsmouth. In 1792 it was described as on the upper route to Casco Bay in Maine. In 1813, the high-sounding name of the route from "Boston to Montreal" was applied to this road, and in the following year the route "to Montreal and Quebec!"

In 1814, on a Sunday evening, Stephen Swart returned home from Dorchester Heights with the company of light infantry of which he was a member, which put up at Black Horse Tavern. The company had been absent on that service seven weeks, guarding the heights on account of the war. Soon afterward, the great and important news of peace was received at this tavern, travelling to Boston from New York in 32 hours,—242 miles! Slower times than these!!

From 1834 to 1836 Winchester, near the crossing of the Boston and Lowell Railroad at Main Street—ancient as the first settlement of the region—was called the "Woburn Gates," because gates were closed when trains were passing. The original scheme of the railway connecting Boston and Lowell did not contemplate any provision for business at this place, and no depot was built. Passengers had to walk to

Walnut Hill and pay \$1 fare to Boston. The building first used as a station was a small shoemaker's shop, about 10 by 15, which answered every purpose, till the increase of the village rendered a larger building necessary. This depot was opposite Lyceum Hall: a second and third building were erected here, each larger than its predecessor. In 1872, after bitter opposition, the depot site was fixed at the present location. For two years after the opening of the railroad, few changes were observed. But there was a man whose eagle eye saw the advantages of South Woburn for business and the probability of the founding of a new town. This was Samuel Steele Richardson, a large manufacturer of shoes in Woburn, and then considered a rich man.

He was born in Woburn, July 19, 1806, son of Calvin and Sarah. The family were residents of Richardson's Row, now embraced in Winchester. He was active in whatever he undertook. His manner was inspiring, and he gave life and vigor to all his undertakings. He possessed some peculiarities. For instance: "From Portland to New Orleans he would travel often in advance of railroads and steamboats, with his coat under his arm, a shoe in his hand, and a change of linen in his pocket; never waiting for anyone, yet always behind in starting. Once, on the Mississippi River, he was left at Memphis, but before the boat got to the next landing he was there, ready to spring aboard on its arrival." He was a man, writes one who well knew him, "propelled by a mind intensely nervous and surpassingly active." When he went to South Woburn in 1836, it was "a small place with a blacksmith and wheelwright shop, and a little grocery store; Cutter's mill was grinding corn and beginning to saw mahogany. The old Abel Richardson mill was toppling over with age, the roof falling in, and the millstones sunk in the stream below. The cars had been running two years." (Sketch of S. S. Richardson, by Nathaniel A. Richardson, in *Woburn Journal*, Dec. 17, 1886.)

He obtained possession of the ancient Converse mill site, and of a large tract of land adjoining it, and repaired or entirely rebuilt the old mill and built several dwelling-houses, and a shoe factory, where the Lyceum Hall afterwards stood. He also purchased the Black Horse tavern and farm.

In 1837, however, having speculated in eastern lands too extensively, he became financially embarrassed, and the interests of the new village suffered. His place, however, was taken by a man of still greater financial ability, and one of the most efficient promoters of the future prosperity and distinctive character of Winchester. This was Benjamin F. Thompson, brother of the well-known General Abijah Thompson of Woburn, who had lived at the Centre. Like his brother he had begun business in a small way, removing to the South village in 1837 or 1838, to the old Converse mill. After a time he purchased land and built a tannery, now Philip Waldmyer's. In the older village at the Centre he had been a well-established influence for good. His garden in Woburn was a special attraction of the town. His



person and surroundings were distinguished by a refined and cultivated taste, denoting attention to the proprieties of a thoughtful and discriminating habit of life, and in all his business relations and transactions, there was a corresponding correctness. His word was considered by all who knew him, as good as his bond. Such was the man who now joined his fortunes with the village of South Woburn, and latterly of the town of Winchester.

The late Oliver R. Clark says of the period of 1836 to 1838, that there was but little business at that time in Winchester. The streets were likewise few. Main Street, or the great road from Woburn to Medford, was then very much as it now is. The houses also were not numerous, and in his article he attempts a description of them and of the establishments for business, the principal one being the old mahogany-mill, of the Messrs. Cutter. The original mill was burned in 1841, and immediately re-built, and an important business begun. The "Gates" were ponderous affairs to protect travellers from danger at the railroad crossing on Main Street, and were swung open and closed by the bystanders. At that time it was not uncommon for persons to travel miles to see the steam monster, as people then called the locomotive. The trains, however, were few and far between, the engines small, and the cars much like the old-fashioned stage-coaches, with the doors on the sides. The engineer was not protected, as now, by a cab, and the conductor and brakeman rode on the top of the cars. The speed of these trains, according to the statement of the late Eli Cooper, one of the earliest locomotive engineers on this road, was considerable, perhaps as great as many of the trains now. The proceedings on stopping at stations were those of the most approved English fashion of that date. They are described quite minutely in the Winchester Record, Vol. I., Page 57, by Mr. Abijah Thompson. The early depot-masters were John Robinson, shoemaker; John Donahoe, the first to make the position a regular business; and Captain Nathan Jaquith. Captain Jaquith combined the duties of depot-master, baggage-master, and gate-tender in one office. He was active and energetic, and besides this, started the livery business in the village. He died Feb. 16, 1875, at the advanced age of ninety-three years, ten months, and sixteen days.

A very interesting picture of the centre of South Woburn village in 1840 is given in a view from a painting by Dr. R. U. Piper, a copy of which is presented in the Winchester Record, Vol. I., Page 59.

The village which had thus sprung up "just eight miles from Boston," by railroad, was given a still more positive character as an independent community by the formation of a church parish in 1840. A house of worship was dedicated Dec. 30, 1840, and was altered and enlarged in 1852, and destroyed by fire on March 20, 1853; and its successor was dedicated Oct. 11, 1854, being erected near

the site of the former. Behind this edifice, in 1844, the parish established a small burying-ground. This was afterwards given up, and on April 7, 1851, the town voted to choose a committee to purchase a lot for a cemetery, which was named Wildwood Cemetery.

On the site of the ancient Converse mill purchased by S. S. Richardson, a new one was built in 1838-39. In this latter structure quite a variety of business was carried on: sash and blind making by Leonard Gilson and others; veneer sawing by Harrison Parker in 1843. This building was burned Jan. 18, 1845, and soon rebuilt. In the building burned, Amos Whittenore built one of the first machines invented for pegging shoes. It was his invention, and attracted much attention when new. Joel Whitney occupied the first floor at this time, having removed from South Reading in 1844. This mill was owned for many years by Harrison Parker.

Further along on the same street, near the junction of Washington and Main Streets, was the blacksmith shop of Major Francis Johnson and Nathan B. Johnson. It was one of the most famous shops of the region, and much work was done in it for the Boston and Lowell railroad. In the evenings in winter, the glowing fires were seen in full blast, and the air of enterprise about the place was inspiring and invigorating. The antiquity of this stand can be traced into the former century, when horses were shod here belonging to the ancient stage-coaches. At Symmes Corner were blacksmith and wheelwright shops, where considerable business was carried on by Marshall and John Symmes.

The act to incorporate the town of Winchester in the year 1850, is photographed, and a copy is presented in the Winchester Record, Vol. I., Page 41. The new town was taken from Woburn, Medford, and West Cambridge (now Arlington). The line given between Woburn and Winchester, was half way between the south side of Woburn Common and the depot at South Woburn. The act was passed April 30, 1850. The separation of this town from the older towns was not made without very vigorous remonstrances on the part of those whose territory was affected. Measures for a separation were first taken by inhabitants of the section to be set off, in December, 1849. The first meeting was held on Dec. 17. Benjamin F. Thompson and John A. Bolles, and other well-known citizens, were prominent in the project. A second meeting was held Dec. 24, when the first representative from Winchester, Frederick O. Prince, took active part in the proceedings. At this meeting the following names for the new town were proposed: Appleton, Avon, Channing, Waterville, Winchester, and Winthrop. The name of Winchester was decided upon in honor of Col. Wm. P. Winchester.

The petition for incorporation was presented to the legislature on Jan. 19, 1850, and the request was granted on its first application. Hon. Albert H. Nelson of Woburn was engaged as counsel for the petitioners, and his services and influence

were valuable. "No money was used by either side to gain influence, not a dollar for lobby or a supper;" and when the legislative committee visited Winchester to examine the ground, they were given a very plain collation, not in a spirit of parsimony, but in accordance with the requirements of the occasion: indeed, had a more expensive entertainment been presented, the cause would undoubtedly have received injury. The citizens paid their counsel two hundred and fifty dollars, and Mr. Bolles, for his legal work, fifty dollars, also all the necessary expenses, the town committee making no charge for their services.

The town of Winchester was started clear of debt. Her motto was "Economy and prompt payment," and her leading town officers for the first year made no charge for their services, and the service was itself of the best.

The choice of the name of Winchester was fortunate in one respect, that it brought a welcome gift of three thousand dollars to be used in the erection of a Town Hall, or any other proper object of municipal expenditure. Colonel Winchester was informed that the name was given to the town, at the request of its inhabitants, out of compliment to him, and he, not being content with a mere verbal expression of his appreciation, begged leave to present to the new town the sum stated for the purposes before mentioned. The letter was dated at Boston, May 25, 1850.

Colonel Winchester died August 6, 1850, at the early age of forty-nine years, at his residence in Watertown. He was an accomplished scholar in the French, Spanish, and Italian languages. The money presented by Colonel Winchester was first expended on the purchase of Wildwood Cemetery. The Winchester fund was returned to the town treasury in 1885. Recently a part was transferred to the Town Hall account to purchase a clock, bell, and other furnishings for that building. On the bell in the tower an inscription is cast: "This clock and bell commemorate the gift of William P. Winchester to the town which bears his name."

Winchester had one advantage when incorporated: she was a new town, and could avail herself of the experience of many generations, and avoid the errors of older municipalities and shape her institutions after a more perfect pattern. Great attention was paid to schools and the town expenditure was principally for this object. At the outset she had no expensive public buildings to erect, and the fund contributed by Col. Winchester aided in the purchase of land for a cemetery. The school committee had charge of all the schools and schoolhouses,—there were no school districts, and no district or prudential committees,—and one common and uniform system of administration was applied to every school and school division. This arrangement was at that time an improvement on the methods in other towns, though common enough now. From the first year of her corporate existence there was a High School kept, in which the town had commendable

pride, although the number of families did not require the maintenance of such a school. She was then the smallest town in the State that sustained a High School. When the whole of her population was but eighteen hundred and one, and her valuation but half a million dollars, her standing among the towns and cities of Massachusetts, in the comparative amount of money expended for education, was in one year, the second.

In the civil war of 1861 to 1865, the town furnished 244 men, at a pecuniary cost of nearly thirty thousand dollars: this amount was raised by hiring money for a term of years, by taxation, and by subscription: the town officers and others giving their services and expenses. The number of men who died in the service was ten. In her quota were five persons bearing the rank of major—one on the staff, two of the commissary, and one of the medical department, and one in the line—including the well-known names of Bolles, Norton, Richardson, Ingalls, and Prince. Seven bore the title of captain, four in the line, one in the navy, one paymaster in the navy, and one acting-master in the navy: including the names of Bacon, two Richardsons, Williams, Spicer, Weld, and Ford. The last two lost their lives in the service. There were also two lieutenants—Abrahams and Hartshorn—five minor medical officers, one acting assistant paymaster in the navy, and three sergeants, and two corporals. A good record for a town which started in 1850 with thirteen hundred population, and two hundred and fifty voters.

In 1873, the project of a public water supply for Winchester was agitated: the first report of the water commissioners appeared the following year. To the energetic perseverance and courage of the late David N. Skillings, one of the members of the first board, is largely due the adoption of an economical plan of a gravity supply, from impounding reservoirs. When the system is completed, it will consist of two beautiful lakes, two hundred and twenty acres in area, at a level one hundred and thirty feet above the town, surrounded by rocky hills, in the heart of the Middlesex Fells, and free from all sources of contamination. When drive-ways are built, as contemplated, along the shores and connected with the woodland drives around Spot Pond, Winchester can boast of a park system inferior to none.

In 1887, the corner stone of the Town Hall and Library was laid, and the building was completed in 1889. The hall has a seating capacity of 1,300. The town officers have suitable and pleasant accommodations. The Public Library, established in 1859, is located in a wing of the building, well adapted for its purposes. Since occupying its new rooms, the increase of books given out has been thirty-two per cent.

Winchester has always been noted for the devoted interest of her citizens and officials in municipal affairs. Their public spirit has made her what she is and its continuance will ensure future increase in population, wealth, and culture.

TOWN HALL AND CHURCH, WINCHESTER, MASS.



# Historical Tablets.

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The following inscriptions mark historic sites in the town of Winchester at the celebration of 250th anniversary of the first white settlement :

## Site of First House.

Built in 1640 by Edward Converse, who was the leader of the first party sent out by Charlestown to explore "Waterfield." Selectman 24 years; Deacon 19 years; arrested in 1662 for speaking disrespectfully of the King's Letter; one of a committee to set the bounds between Charlestown and Woburn in 1650.

Located on Thompson Estate next Post office.

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## First Meeting of Settlers.

"4 of 11 mo. 1640. Meeting in Edward Convars house in which many persons were admitted to set down their dwellings in this town, yet being shallow of brains fell off afterwards." — *Johnson's Records*.

Located next Post-Office.

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## Site of Cold Bridge.

"10 of 12 mo. 1640. The first bridg was laid over the Aberjona River over against Edward Convars hous and called Could Bridg." — *Johnson's Records*.

Located at bridge near Whitney's Mill Dam.

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## Site of Long Bridge.

"26 of 6 mo. 1641. A bridg was made across Horn Pond River though the place was soe boggy it swallowed up much wood before it could be made pasable, yet it was finished and called Longe Bridg." — *Johnson's Records*.

Located rear of Sullivan Cutter's house.

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## Day of Fasting and Prayer before building Long Bridge.

"25 of 6 mo. 1641. Things going heavily on and many Blocks in the waye, especially sum of their own company dishartning, this day was set apart for humble seeking the Lord by fasting and prayer, whom they found grations in keeping upp the spirits of sum to the worke." — *Johnson's Records*.

### Site of the "Convers Corne-Mill."

Built previous to 1649, probably in 1641. Abel Richardson Mill, 1774.  
Located at Whitney's Mill.

### Site of Major James Converse House, 1645-1706.

A brave Indian fighter. Commander of Massachusetts troops in Maine, 1690; Deputy to General Court 11 years; Speaker of the House 3 years; Selectman of Woburn 4 years; Town Clerk of Woburn 9 years.

Located at Dodge Estate, Church Street.

### "The King's Ford."

In 1641, the ford below this bridge was called the King's Ford. — *Winchester Record, Page 430.*

Located below bridge at Whitney's Mill Dam.

### This Land set apart for a Common in 1659.

"And for all that land that lyeth comon between the houses, my will is, that *it shall be comon for perpetuity.*" — *Edward Converse's will*, 1659.

(The "houses" referred to were situated on the present Thompson and Dodge Estates.)  
Located on the Winchester Common.

### Increase Nowell's Farm, 1638.

Gov. Craddock's "assistant" in England, 1628; Gov. Winthrop's "assistant" in Mass., 1630; First Magistrate in Charlestown 1630 to 1655; Selectman of Charlestown 19 years.

Located on Abijah Thompson Estate, Church St.

### Squa Sachem's Reservation

"for the Indians to plant and hunt upon, and the weare above the ponds for the Indians to fish at." April 15, 1639.

Located on Edmund Dwight's Estate, Cambridge Street.

### Birthplace of Gov. John Brooks.

Born, 1752. — Died, 1825.

Captain and colonel in the Revolutionary War, serving at Lexington, Bunker Hill, White Plains, Valley Forge, Saratoga. Governor of Massachusetts 1816 to 1823.

Located on Marshall Symmes' Estate.

### Indian Massacre During King Philip's War.

Near this spot, April 10th, 1676, Hannah Richardson, wife of Samuel Richardson, and their two children, Thomas and Hannah, were killed and scalped by the Indians. The nurse with the babe Hannah, fled to the garrison house (near the present Jos. Stone estate), but was forced to drop the babe, or lose her own life. The Indians were pursued and one was killed near Highland Reservoir.

Located on Washington Street, near Prince Avenue.

### The Symmes Farm (About 300 acres).

Granted to Rev. Zachariah Symmes, first minister of Charlestown church, in 1634. This portion of the farm still owned by his descendants.

Located at Symmes' Corner.

### John Harvard's Land.

In 1638 this tract of land (about 120 acres) was owned by John Harvard, founder of Harvard University. *Plan of Watertown by George Cooke and George T. Littlefield, in Winchester Record.*

Located at Winchester Highlands.

### Squa Sachem's Wigwam.

Site of Squa Sachem's Wigwam (the last "Queen of Mistick"), 1639.—*Frothingham's History.*

Located near corner of Church and Cambridge Sts.

### Black Horse Tavern.

Landlords: — 1750, Giles Alexander; 1761, Noah Wyman; 1774, Noah Richardson; a meeting-place for the patriots during the Revolution.

Located on Black Horse Hill.

### Belknap's Fulling and Grist-Mills.

First built about 1700, at west end of Canal Street.

Located at Cowdery, Cobb & Co.'s Mill.

### Church Street.

This street called Driver's Lane in 1646.



**Site of Samuel Richardson's House.**

One of the first settlers, 1640.

Located on Washington Street, opposite Prince Avenue.

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**Thomas Richardson's House.**

(4th generation.) Erected about 1730.

Located on Luther Richardson homestead.

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**Site of Old Symmes Mill.**

Built about 1650. Bacon's Mills, 1820 to 1864.

Located near Bacon's Bridge.

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**Site of William Symmes Homestead and Dye-House.**

Built about 1650. Justice of Peace under Gov. Andros. Died an "untimely death" in 1690.

Located at Rangely on Church Street.

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**Abel Richardson's Farm.**

1773 to 1831.

He owned the adjacent grist mill. Was a soldier in the old French war, 1758 to 1760, and a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Lived to be ninety-five years old.

Located on Thompson estate, next Post-Office.

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**Site of Belknap Homestead.**

Captain Samuel Belknap lived here about 1750. A gallant soldier in the Revolution. The home of "Witch Belknap."

Located on James Russell's estate, Main Street.

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**Site of Ezekiel Richardson's House.**

One of the first seven settlers, 1640.

Located on N. A. Richardson estate.

**Site of Thomas Richardson's House.**

1640.

One of the first seven settlers.

Located on estate of the late Samuel Richardson, Washington Street.

**Site of Richardson's Grist Mill, 1727.**

Cutter's Mill, 1811 to 1872.

Located at Cutter Village.

**Site of Major William Johnson's House.**

Served against the Indians at Billerica. One of the Court of Assistants; a Magistrate, Selectman, Town Clerk and Deputy.

Located at Luke Reed Place, west side.

**Site of the Dean House, 1690.**

Known as the "Lamb Tavern." Home of William and Samuel Dean who served against the Indians.

Located on Gen. John M. Corse Estate.

**Caleb Richardson's House.**

Built about 1710.

Part of original grant to Ezekiel Richardson (1638).

Located on estate of George G. Stratton.

# Arbitration on Flowage Damage by the Converse Mill-Dam.

1649.

"Upon an Arbitration between Robert Hale and Edward Converse, concerning meadow Land overflowed by the Mill of the said Edward, It is agreed By us whose names are underwritten, that the said Edward Converse shall pay for full satisfaction the sume of seven pounds to the said Robert Hale and this in Current money or in corne or in Cattle at a valluable consideration, provided notwithstanding that If any part of the said meadows be recovered out of the watter it shall be lawfull for the said Robert Hale to repossese the same : paying to the said Edward Converse twentie shillings an Acor for so much as he shall think fitt to make use of againe. And further If the whole shall be recovered, then the said Robt Hale shall Pay Backe Againe the whole sume of seven Pounds, and untill the money be repaid as above Expressed, it shall be used by the said Edward Converse.

"Dated the Twentiyeth of the twelfth mo 1649

"The payment of the said sume of seven Pounds to be payd by Edward Converse to Robert hale shall be by the twentyeth of the ninth month next Insueing the date heare of

"JOHN MOUSALL

EDWARD JOHNSON

MILES NUTT

JOHN WRIGHT

SAMUEL RICHARDSON [mark] X

JAMES THOMPSON [mark] T

"This above written Is a true Copy of the Oridginall Writing Compared word for word this : Last day June 1662. pr me

"EDWARD BURT

"*Recorder.*"

NOTE.—Robert Hale lived in Charlestown, and was the ancestor of Nathan Hale, executed by the British in the War of the Revolution as a spy. He owned a meadow lot in "Waterfield," as all the central part of Winchester was then called.

*From "The Converse Mill," in Winchester Record. Vol. II., No. 1.*

Located at Whitney's Mill, Main Street.

Tragedy at the Converse Mill, Feb. 21, 1669.

*Deposition of Witnesses.*

"We Isaac Brooks and James Thompson being about the 21 of Feb. 69 in the Corne mill belonging to the Converses, at Wooburne, on of suddain we heard a voice about the mill wheel saying stop the wheel. upon wh. the said Thompson did run to the mill gate & looking towards the mill wheel he saw as he thought a man laid down and cried out my unkle is killed. Isaak in the mean time did run to the waterwheel and found Samuel Converse wth his head fastened between the water wheel and water wall.

"The said Thompson in the mean time did shut the gate and came running to the sd Brooks. Now the water wheel being turned backwards did raise upwards and wee seeing his head cleared went unto him and did take him up alive who bled excessively. We did carry him into his house and soon after we brought him in his bleeding stopt & in about half an houres time as we conceive he was quite departed."

*The verdict of the jury of quest on the death of Samuel Convars.*

"We subscribed being by the Constable of Wooburn Summoned a jury of quest upon the suddain and untimely death of Seargt Samuel Convars late of Wooburne, upon examination of the Witnesses that did take him up, going to the place from whence he was taken up & viewing of the Corps, doe conceive that the said Convars was cutting some ice from off the water wheele of the corne mill & so overreaching with his axe was caught by his coate with some parte of the wheele whereby his coate was rent to the Choller thereof & that not giving way his head was drawne downe untill it was sucked in between the water wall & the water wheele. now as is said he did call to shutt down the wheele but in all probabilitie he received his mortall wound soone after he spake to stop the Wheele. We saw much blood in the place whereabouts he was judged to stand, also there was blood upon the snow from the place to his house, as is said he was carried to his house alive and being set in a chair his blood quickly settled within him wholly preventing him from speaking & in about half an hour was dead. We found the back side of his head greatly bruised his nose grizzle as wee think was broken so that the said Convars his head lying as before expressed we judge his death to be by the water wheele of the Corne Mill. 22: 12: 69.

"RICHARD GARDNER	EDWARD IVONS	INCREASE WINN
MATTHEW JOHNSON	WILLIAM JOHNSON	JOHN MOUSALL
JOHN WRIGHT	JOHN CARTER	JOHN BROOKS
JOHN RUSSELL	JOHN NORRIS	WILL SYMES"

*From "Old Converse Mill," by Arthur E. Whitney, in Winchester Record, Vol. II., No. 1.  
Located at Whitney's Mill, Main Street.*

**List of Soldiers who Served in the French and Indian Wars, who lived  
within the present limits of Winchester.**

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MAJOR WILLIAM JOHNSON.	LIEUT. JAMES CONVERSE, SR.
CAPT. JOHN CARTER.	MAJOR JAMES CONVERSE, JR.
ABEL RICHARDSON.	JOHN RICHARDSON.
NATHANIEL RICHARDSON.	SAMUEL RICHARDSON.
WM. DEAN.	SAMUEL THOMPSON.
BENJAMIN CARTER.	

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**List of Soldiers who Served in the Revolutionary War, who lived within  
the present limits of Winchester.**

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JOSEPH BELKNAP.	JESSEE RICHARDSON.
CAPT. SAMUEL BELKNAP.	GIDEON RICHARDSON.
ZACHARIAH BROOKS.	JOHN RICHARDSON, JR.
JOSEPH BROWN.	JONATHAN RICHARDSON.
SAMUEL CARTER.	LUKE RICHARDSON.
BENJAMIN CONVERSE.	NATHAN RICHARDSON.
ROBERT CONVERSE.	PETER RICHARDSON.
ANDREW EVANS.	ZACHARIAH RICHARDSON.
JAMES GARDNER.	ZACHARIAH RICHARDSON, JR.
BENJAMIN HADLEY.	BILL RUSSELL.
CAPT. JOHN LeBOSQUET.	CAPT. JOHN SYMMES.
JONATHAN LOCK.	SAMUEL SYMMES.
JOSIAH LOCK.	WM. SYMMES.
JOB MILLER.	ZACHARIAH SYMMES.
DANIEL REED.	NATHANIEL WATTS.
ABEL RICHARDSON.	SAMUEL WATTS.
ABEL RICHARDSON, JR.	PHILEMON WRIGHT.
EBENEZER RICHARDSON.	DAVID WYMAN.
ELEZER RICHARDSON.	HEZEKIAH WYMAN.
JAMES RICHARDSON.	PAUL WYMAN.
JEDUTHAN RICHARDSON.	JESSEE WYMAN.

# Committee on 250th Celebration.

The Celebration is held under the direction of the following

## GENERAL COMMITTEE.

*Chairman,* James F. Dorsey.      *Sec'y and Treas.,* Henry F. Johnson.

Arthur E. Whitney,	Phineas W. Swan,	John T. Wilson,	William H. Herrick,
Albert Ayer,	Samuel W. Twombly,	Albert E. Ayer,	B. Sargent Briggs,
James Russell,	Patrick W. Reardon,	Louis Barta,	Joseph J. Todd,
James H. Winn,	George S. Littlefield,	Edward Russell,	George W. Payne,
John W. Richardson,	Henry C. Miller,	Abijah Thompson,	Thos. W. Lawson,
Charles F. Lunt,	John W. Suter,	Fred Joy,	John L. Ayer,
James H. Dwinell,	Theo. P. Wilson,	Fred M. Symmes,	Thomas B. Riley,
Henry A. Emerson,	Nathan A. Richardson,	George G. Stratton,	George L. Locke,
Edwin Robinson,	Edward H. Rice,	Thomas S. Spurr,	James E. Lyon.
John H. Carter,	Charles T. Symmes,	Isaac N. Pierce,	

## SUB-COMMITTEES.

### HISTORICAL COMMITTEE.

Abijah Thompson,      Arthur E. Whitney,      George S. Littlefield.

### MORNING PARADE COMMITTEE.

John T. Wilson,      Edwin Robinson,      Albert E. Ayer,      Fred M. Symmes,  
 James Russell,      George G. Stratton,      Patrick W. Reardon,      Thomas S. Spurr,  
                  Joseph J. Todd,      Isaac N. Pierce,      Thomas P. Riley.

### FIREWORKS COMMITTEE.

John H. Carter,      James F. Dorsey,      James H. Dwinell,  
                  George W. Payne,      William H. Herrick.

## COMMITTEE ON EXERCISES IN THE TOWN HALL.

James Russell,	Arthur E. Whitney,	James F. Dorsey,
Albert Ayer,	James H. Winn,	Abijah Thompson.

## DINNER COMMITTEE.

John W. Suter,	Henry A. Emerson,	Charles F. Lunt,
James E. Lyon,	B. Sargent Briggs.	

## CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT.

Thomas W. Lawson,	Edward H. Rice,	John H. Carter.
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## COMMITTEE ON BADGES.

Arthur E. Whitney.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE.

James F. Dorsey,	Henry F. Johnson,	Edwin Robinson,	Henry A. Emerson,
Louis Barta,	Thomas W. Lawson,	John L. Ayer,	George G. Stratton,
Fred M. Symmes,	Phineas W. Swan,	John H. Carter,	Charles F. Lunt.

## COMMITTEE ON DECORATIONS.

George S. Littlefield,	Arthur E. Whitney,	Edward H. Rice,
Samuel W. Twombly,	Phineas W. Swan.	

## COMMITTEE ON MUSIC.

James Russell,	Albert Ayer,	James H. Winn,
Arthur E. Whitney,	James F. Dorsey.	

## COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE TOWN GUESTS.

Albert Ayer,	Arthur E. Whitney,	} <i>Board of Selectmen.</i>
James Russell,	James H. Winn,	
James F. Dorsey,		

Thomas P. Ayer,	Francis H. Nourse,	Samuel W. Twombly,	George T. Littlefield,
Abijah Thompson,	James C. Johnson,	Luther R. Symmes,	George G. Stratton,
Sylvanus C. Small,	Moses A. Herrick,	David N. Skillings,	Joseph H. Tyler,
Charles H. Dunham,	Salem Wilder,	Luther Richardson,	Josiah Locke,
Marshall Symmes,	Henry F. Johnson,	James F. Dwinell,	Frederick H. Page,
Samuel J. Elder,	Henry C. Miller,	Thomas S. Spurr,	John T. Wilson,
Samuel B. White,	George S. Littlefield,		

# Official Programme.

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## *NATIONAL SALUTES*

Will be fired at six o'clock, A. M., at noon, and at sunset.

## *THE MORNING PARADE*

Will start at half-past nine o'clock, under the direction of Edwin Robinson, Chief Marshal.

## *MEETING IN THE TOWN HALL.*

At twelve o'clock, noon, there will be a public meeting in the Town Hall, at which Abijah Thompson, Esq., President of the Winchester Historical Society, will preside. Samuel W. McCall, Esq., will deliver a historical address and National anthems will be sung.

Rev. John W. Suter will be the chaplain of the day.

## *PUBLIC DINNER.*

At one o'clock, P. M., there will be a collation in a mammoth Yale tent, on the grounds of D. N. Skillings, Esq. After dinner speeches will be given by distinguished gentlemen, guests of the town and others, and music will be furnished by the Woburn Brass Band. Mr. James F. Dorsey will preside.

## *CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT.*

At half-past two, P. M., there will be an entertainment in the Town Hall especially for children.

## *FIREWORKS.*

The day's festivities will conclude with a grand display of fireworks by Messrs. Masten & Wells, on Bacon's Field, beginning at eight o'clock, P. M. The Woburn and Winchester brass bands will furnish music throughout the exhibition.

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